

# Weekly Coal Production

Production for Week Ended:  
April 3, 1993



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**Heating fuel data**, updated the 2nd week of the month.

**Oxygenates data**, updated approximately the 25th of the month.

**Weekly Petroleum Status Report**, updated on Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

**Petroleum Supply Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Petroleum Marketing Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Natural Gas Monthly**, updated on the 20th of the month.

**Weekly Coal Production**, updated on Fridays at 5:00 p.m.

**Quarterly Coal Report**, updated 60 days after the end of the quarter.

**Electric Power Monthly**, updated on the 1st of the month.

**Monthly Energy Review**, updated the last week of the month.

**Short-Term Energy Outlook**, updated 60 days after the end of the quarter.

**Winter Fuels Report** (October through April), updated on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

### Contacts

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### Distribution Category UC-950

Released for Printing April 9, 1993.

This report was prepared by the Energy Information Administration, the independent statistical and analytical agency within the U.S. Department of Energy. The information contained herein should not be construed as advocating or reflecting any policy position of the U.S. Department of Energy or of any other organization.

## Summary

U.S. coal production in the week ended April 3, 1993, as estimated by the Energy Information Administration from railroad car loadings, totaled 18 million short tons. This was 10 percent lower than in the previous week, and about the same as in the comparable week in 1992.

Production east of the Mississippi River totaled 10 million short tons, and production west of the Mississippi River totaled 8 million short tons.

Figure 1. Coal Production

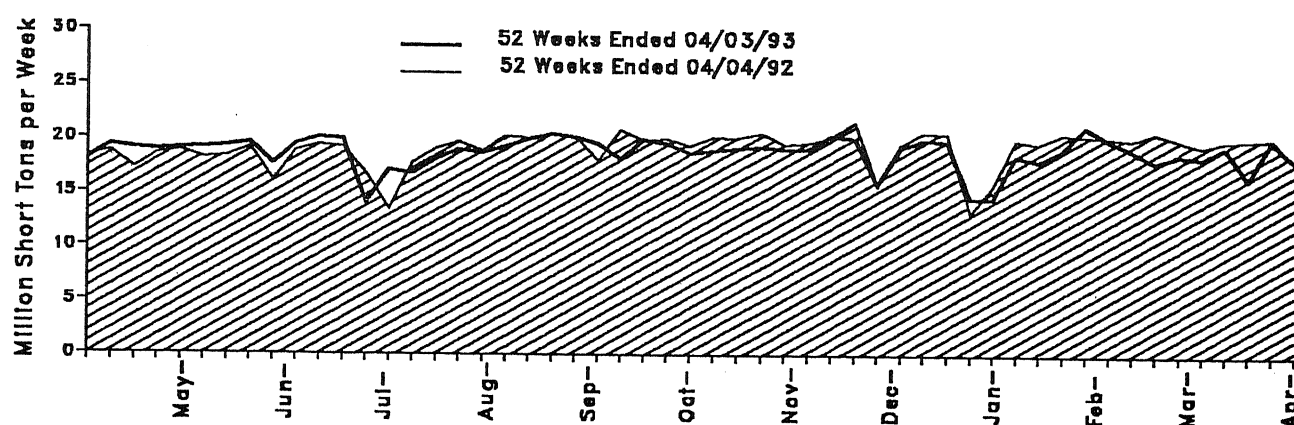


Table 1. Weekly U.S. Coal Production Overview

Production and Carloadings	Week Ended			52 Weeks Ended		
	04/03/93	03/27/93	04/04/92	04/03/93	04/04/92	Percent Change
Production (Thousand Short Tons)						
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite .....	17,999	19,928	18,016	970,442	987,636	-1.7
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	40	48	63	2,841	3,395	-16.3
U.S. Total .....	18,038	19,976	18,079	973,284	991,031	-1.8
Railroad Cars Loaded .....	116,950	125,124	111,957	6,263,123	6,453,508	-3.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 2. Weekly U.S. Coal Production by Region and State**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	Week Ended		
	04/03/93	03/27/93	04/04/92
<b>Bituminous Coal<sup>1</sup> and Lignite</b>			
<b>East of the Mississippi .....</b>	<b>10,075</b>	<b>11,417</b>	<b>11,001</b>
Alabama .....	556	583	435
Illinois .....	886	1,175	1,065
Indiana .....	470	459	610
Kentucky .....	2,682	3,067	2,933
Kentucky, Eastern .....	1,899	2,168	2,112
Kentucky, Western .....	783	899	820
Maryland .....	55	65	71
Ohio .....	500	576	563
Pennsylvania Bituminous .....	1,040	1,139	1,343
Tennessee .....	93	100	51
Virginia .....	862	925	846
West Virginia .....	2,931	3,328	3,085
<b>West of the Mississippi .....</b>	<b>7,924</b>	<b>8,511</b>	<b>7,015</b>
Alaska .....	33	37	27
Arizona .....	208	231	236
Arkansas .....	*	*	1
Colorado .....	349	335	286
Iowa .....	7	8	5
Kansas .....	6	8	6
Louisiana .....	9	9	64
Missouri .....	39	43	54
Montana .....	738	812	615
New Mexico .....	645	514	373
North Dakota .....	559	614	555
Oklahoma .....	38	46	35
Texas .....	915	1,014	959
Utah .....	364	378	351
Washington .....	89	99	101
Wyoming .....	3,925	4,364	3,348
<b>Bituminous Coal<sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total .....</b>	<b>17,999</b>	<b>19,928</b>	<b>18,016</b>
<b>Pennsylvania Anthracite .....</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>U.S. Total .....</b>	<b>18,038</b>	<b>19,976</b>	<b>18,079</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

\* Less than 0.5 thousand short tons.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

**Table 3. U.S. Coal Production by Region and State, March 1993**  
(Thousand Short Tons)

Region and State	March 1993	February 1993	March 1992	Year to Date		
				1993	1992	Percent Change
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite						
East of the Mississippi .....	45,569	42,233	53,211	135,138	154,092	-12.3
Alabama .....	2,333	2,280	2,335	7,107	7,061	.7
Illinois .....	5,081	4,732	5,280	14,357	16,125	-11.0
Indiana .....	1,985	1,765	3,185	5,851	9,102	-35.7
Kentucky .....	12,118	11,492	13,967	36,796	41,153	-10.6
Kentucky, Eastern .....	8,502	8,524	10,404	26,381	30,359	-13.1
Kentucky, Western .....	3,616	2,968	3,563	10,415	10,794	-3.5
Maryland .....	257	244	236	794	690	15.2
Ohio .....	2,189	1,998	2,824	6,308	8,032	-21.5
Pennsylvania Bituminous .....	4,765	4,231	6,483	13,541	17,112	-20.9
Tennessee .....	376	342	235	1,109	684	62.2
Virginia .....	3,482	3,164	3,860	10,249	11,254	-8.9
West Virginia .....	12,982	11,985	14,806	39,025	42,879	-9.0
West of the Mississippi .....	38,193	33,106	32,625	103,325	101,825	1.5
Alaska .....	154	138	133	438	401	9.2
Arizona .....	969	870	1,096	2,752	3,266	-15.7
Arkansas .....	2	2	1	6	3	91.6
Colorado .....	1,702	1,450	1,417	4,630	4,321	7.2
Iowa .....	32	29	29	91	88	3.2
Kansas .....	34	39	25	105	75	40.1
Louisiana .....	150	306	294	756	553	36.9
Missouri .....	181	163	223	515	664	-22.4
Montana .....	3,630	2,991	3,169	9,369	10,021	-6.5
New Mexico .....	2,789	2,684	1,777	7,952	5,922	34.3
North Dakota .....	2,747	2,263	2,529	7,090	7,995	-11.3
Oklahoma .....	211	223	155	650	479	35.7
Texas .....	4,255	3,818	4,355	12,112	13,014	-6.9
Utah .....	1,846	1,723	2,023	5,195	6,106	-14.9
Washington .....	414	371	434	1,174	1,294	-9.3
Wyoming .....	19,076	16,036	14,964	50,489	47,623	6.0
Bituminous Coal <sup>1</sup> and Lignite Total .....	83,762	75,340	85,835	238,462	255,917	-6.8
Pennsylvania Anthracite .....	185	170	279	529	783	-32.5
U.S. Total .....	83,947	75,510	86,114	238,991	256,700	-6.9

<sup>1</sup> Includes subbituminous coal.

Notes: All data are preliminary. Total may not equal sum of components because of independent rounding.

Sources: Association of American Railroads, Transportation Division, Weekly Statement CS-54A; Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-6, "Coal Distribution Report"; Form EIA-7A, "Coal Production Report"; and State mining agency coal production reports.

# Methodology

## Weekly Data

Estimates of national weekly coal production are based on weekly carload data collected by the Association of American Railroads (AAR) from its members (Class I Railroads) and certain other railroads. EIA calculates the average number of tons per carload for each railroad's coal car fleet from information obtained from the most recent Quarterly Freight Commodity Statistics filed by Class I Railroads with the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) and from data made available by individual railroads. The average number of tons per carload is then multiplied by the number of cars loaded to obtain an estimate of weekly production shipped by AAR railroads.

Next, the weekly coal production estimate for a specific week is obtained by dividing the AAR rail tonnage for the week by a factor representing the proportion of quarterly AAR rail shipments to total quarterly coal production. Because this is done on a weekly basis, and prior to completion of current quarterly statistics, the factor is derived using ICC data on tons per carload and total carloadings and from EIA data on total production for the same quarter of the previous year. Figures for the same quarter of the year are used in order to reflect seasonal variation. In some cases, the ratio of rail tonnage to total production is adjusted to take additional, more current information into consideration, such as rail or coal strikes.

Once the U.S. weekly coal production estimate is determined, this total is split into two subtotals - the portion representing States, with little or no rail coal shipments, and the portion representing the remaining States, where a significant percentage of production is shipped by rail. The States with little or no railroad coal shipments are Alaska, Arizona, California, Georgia (when producing), Iowa, Louisiana, Missouri, Texas, and Washington. With the exception of California and Louisiana, the weekly production data for each "nonrail" State are developed by multiplying the estimate of U.S. weekly coal production by the ratio of projected production, for each State to U.S. total projected production, for the current quarter. The methodology used to project State coal production is given in the EIA publication *Model Documentation of the Short-Term Coal Analysis System* (DOE/EIA-0394). The EIA contacts the two producers in Louisiana and

the sole producer in California to develop weekly coal production estimates for those States.

Estimates for the remaining States are in aggregate equal to the U.S. weekly coal production minus the estimated production from the nonrail States. Estimates for "rail States" are based on the AAR carload data compiled by State of origin, including separate estimates for the anthracite and bituminous coal regions in Pennsylvania, eastern and western Kentucky and northern and southern West Virginia.

Each railroad is contacted at least annually for information concerning the distribution (by state of origin) of its railroad carloadings of coal. These distribution percentages are multiplied by the railroad's weekly loadings and ICC derived tonnage per carload figures to derive the weekly tonnages loaded by State and by railroad. The tonnages loaded by the various railroads are then summed by each State to estimate total production shipped by AAR rail for that State. These tonnages are divided by the most recent ratio of annual AAR rail tonnage to total annual production for each State. The resulting weekly coal production estimates for the rail States are then adjusted to ensure that each State's production figure contributes proportionately to the weekly coal production estimate previously derived in aggregate for the rail States.

## Monthly Data

Preliminary estimates of monthly coal production by State are obtained by summing weekly coal production estimates published in the *Weekly Coal Production* report. If a week extends into a new month, the production is allocated by day, and the days are added to the month in which they occur. For weeks without holidays, the allocation is Monday through Friday, 18.4 percent each day; Saturday, 8 percent; and Sunday, 0 percent. For weeks with a holiday occurring on a day other than Sunday, the allocation is Sunday and the holiday, 0 percent; and any other day, 20 percent.

Preliminary weekly and monthly production estimates are revised quarterly when quarterly production data, become available. Preliminary weekly and monthly estimates are proportionately adjusted to conform to the quarterly production figure.

## Quarterly Data

Estimates of quarterly coal production are based on data collected quarterly on Form EIA-6, with certain adjustments. The national estimate of quarterly coal production is set equal to the quarterly U.S. coal production total as reported on the Form EIA-6. Based on 1988 through 1991 data, the coal production estimation error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the sum of the weekly estimates for a quarter and the quarterly EIA-6 preliminary data) ranges from 1 percent to 4 percent for 1988, 1 percent to 2 percent for 1989, 0.3 percent to 3 percent for 1990, and 0.2 percent to 2 percent for 1991.

The quarterly production data, although published throughout the year, are considered preliminary until EIA annual production data are finalized in September of the following year. At that time quarterly production data are revised (proportionately adjusted) to conform to the final annual production figures.

## Finalizing Annual Production

Preliminary total annual U.S. coal production, as reported in the *Weekly Coal Production* report in the first week in January of the following year, is the sum

of revised monthly/quarterly estimates of production for the first 9 months (first three quarters) and a preliminary estimate of fourth quarter production derived from weekly estimates.

When production data for the fourth quarter of the year become available from Form EIA-6 in March of the following year, the preliminary fourth-quarter U.S. total production figure and corresponding State-level figures may or may not be revised, depending on the size of the difference between the estimates and fourth-quarter data. As a general practice, EIA does not revise the initial annual production estimates (determined initially in January of the following year). Weekly, monthly, and quarterly State and national production data are adjusted to conform to finalized annual production figures derived from Form EIA-7A, in September of the following year.

Based on 1988 through 1991 data, the revision error for a quarter at the national level (i.e., the difference between the EIA-6 preliminary data and the EIA-7A final data) ranges from 0.02 percent to 0.08 percent for 1988, 0.09 percent to 0.14 percent for 1989, 0.01 percent to 0.05 percent for 1990, and 0.18 percent to 0.20 percent for 1991. Usually the EIA-7A coal production data are higher than the EIA-6 coal production data, due to differences in the threshold reporting requirements.